

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. - 4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A gusseted bag comprised of a flexible, multi-layer film having an inner layer, wherein only the inner layer ~~that~~ is fusible, the gusseted bag comprising:

a bottom end that is closed before or after filling with bulk material;

a top end with a closure device;

bag walls forming a front wall of the gusseted bag and a rear wall of the gusseted bag;

gussets inserted at opposed sides between the bag walls and extending from the bottom end to the top end and ending at a spacing below upper edges of the bag walls so that a top area free of the gussets is provided;

wherein the bag walls are fused with the gussets and, in the top area free of the gussets, the bag walls are mutually fused with one another along edges of the bag walls;

wherein upper end areas of the gussets have top edges and are folded over toward one of the bag walls at a folding line and form folded-over end areas, wherein the folding line is oriented in a direction toward the bottom end at a slant inwardly and downwardly;

wherein the folded-over end areas each have an inner side where the inner layer of the multi-layer film is folded on itself and ~~that is~~ fused to itself by a first welding seam ~~to an inner side of a neighboring gusset half of the gussets, respectively;~~

wherein the folded-over end areas each have an outer side where the inner layer of the multi-layer film is facing a neighboring bag wall and ~~that~~ is areally fused by a second welding seam to said ~~[[a]]~~ neighboring bag wall, respectively;

wherein an area of ~~the~~ a gusset half neighboring ~~gusset half adjoining~~ the folded-over end areas, respectively, is areally fused with the inner layer of the multi-layer film facing said neighboring bag wall by a third welding seam to said ~~[[a]]~~ neighboring bag wall, respectively;

wherein the first, second, and third welding seams form a fused connection that includes the top edges so that the top edges are closed.

6. (previously presented) The gusseted bag according to claim 5, wherein the end areas are folded over toward the rear wall.

7. (previously presented) The gusseted bag according to claim 5, wherein the closure device is a reclosable closure device that extends at a spacing above the folded-over end areas across an entire bag width of the gusseted bag.

8. (previously presented) The gusseted bag according to claim 7, wherein the reclosable closure device is a three-layer closure strip having outer layers fused to an inner side of the bag walls and having a central layer that is separable by cohesion fracture in two partial layers, wherein the two partial layers, when being placed against one another, are returned into a state of adhesive connection.